

## Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

August 7th, 2023

Old schoolhouse common & zoom

Members In attendance: Nick Seifert, Mike Xenakis, Anne Miller, Wes Cate

Public: Rich Phillips

- Public comments
- Announcements
  - Concert series ongoing at the OSC on Thursdays.
  - August 26th at OSC 4pm-ish – Back to school and volunteer appreciation featuring DJ somebody
- Agenda modifications
  - OSC LED bulbs Rich
- Approval of previous minutes
  - No quorum, skipped.
- Business
  - Plainfield Updates
    - None.
  - Open meeting law brief review
    - Kicking until next time.
  - Jaquith AC request for help.
    - Nick helped and made some recommendations. Units were purchased and installed.
    - Anne mentioned that there are now de-humidifiers, and air purifiers running in the library.
  - Funding opportunities / Legislative updates
    - MERP / Marshfield Municipal upgrades
      - Mike had an update here. He submitted the application for this and requested the OSC, the Firehouse, and Town Garage (in that order) requesting a level 2 assessment on the OSC and Fire house, and Level 1 on the garage. He was not able to get in touch with the village, so no collaboration there.
      - The deadline for submittal of supporting documents is January of 2024. Mike plans to get this done as soon as he's able to. They're asking for energy usage, heating fuel, propane, electrical usage, a lighting schedule, some other things,
        - Rich had some information here to share about the work they did in 2010. He's going to pass this on to Mike.
        - Rich also mentioned the benefits of keeping the fixtures we have, and only replacing the bulbs.
      - Mike has just about what he needs, he is going to connect with Will at the Firehouse and will need to get some "narrative" info from them as well.
      - Most of the recommendations and funding will be based on the audit findings, and the walkthrough. This can apply to solar energy production to cover the town's usage, potentially. Mike has already included some information about this. Same for EV chargers, backup batteries, etc.
      - Mike is recommending that we survey the users of the OSC and get recommendations for improvements.
    - Community grant (\$4k grant)
      - If the lighting schedule requires some work, this grant could be used towards funding that.
    - Food shelf walk in update
      - Anne said this is up and running. She asked about the possible change in electrical usage. Getting an update from Glen about how many fridges they end up unplugging.
        - Anne says there are 4-5 refrigerators with a freezer.
        - They may need a full size freezer to fully replace all of the existing smaller freezers.

- Updates from Upper Winooski community solar group
  - Wes had no update, a lot going on with the flood and other personal stuff going on.
- Enhanced Energy plan update
  - Nick had no update, but will for the next meeting.
- Discussion about fall foliage festival
  - October 1st, a Sunday
    - Brainstorming
      - Something that ties into the flood, and resiliency.
      - Anne mentioned leaflets, boring DVD's,
      - A forum about discussing climate change and ideas about it. What can they do, what can the town do, etc. Group discussion of climate change.
      - My house has PV type signs to give out.
      - Give out LED bulbs. Reach out to Efficiency VT has for giveaway. – Nick to work on this
      - A bigger item giveaway...? something
      - Nick will reach out to GMP about bringing their Rivian. – Nick
      - Residential rebates,
      - Efficiency VT fliers – Nick to work on this
      - Use some of the committee budget towards a larger giveaway item, or something else.
      - Have the food shelf talk about their coolbot / fridge.
    - Further discussion on this in September.
- Window Dresser updates
  - Nothing here for.
- Marshfield Municipal Solar update
  - Possible MERP monies here.
- Selectboard items
  - Dam updates.
    - Nick gave a brief update on an unsubstantiated piece of information shared with him by Steve Fiske. Rich does think there would be a filing, or check with the PUC? **Nick to Check with Bobbi as a starting point.**
  - Air quality sensor
- Tentative agenda for next time:
  - Public comments
  - Announcements
  - Agenda modifications
  - Approval of previous minutes
  - Business
    - Plainfield updates
    - Open meeting law recap
    - Funding opportunities / Legislative updates
      - MERP application status
      - Food shelf walk-in fridge update (electrical use)
    - Upper Winooski Community Solar group updates
    - Enhanced Energy Plan update
    - Fall Foliage festival
    - Marshfield Municipal solar updates
    - Selectboard items
  - Draft agenda for next time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3332233374?pwd=M0NJamtVRERVK2Z5TFdWRIJ5a1RUZz09>

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